

Apr 14, 2008

California Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Task Force,

As an advocate of preserving and improving the health of California's coastal ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to support Proposal 4.

This proposal promises the best future for the North Central Coast by

identifying key areas for protection that will help repair vital ocean habitats, recover declining wildlife populations and restore California's coastal waters. It will help us leave a legacy for our children.

Thank you for considering my views on this important subject. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Ms. Marie Sikora
400 Coon Heights Rd
Ben Lomond, CA 95005-9711

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

Please ensure that important wildlife areas along our coast and in our state waters are protected by creating marine protected areas that are science-based and that incorporate ecosystem management principles. The needs of a broad range of stakeholders can be best met when the most significant natural resources are protected.

Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are needed to protect healthy coastal waters, which support coastal communities and our state economy. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves protect marine biodiversity. Marine reserves will benefit species like birds that depend on forage fish species that are protected in marine reserves and that use also marine protected areas as sanctuaries for breeding and resting. Not only will our underwater resources benefit, but so will the complete ecosystem, if fully protected marine reserves are implemented.

As someone very concerned with the preservation of the natural world I support the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I ask the Blue Ribbon Task Force to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative. Any final package selected as the preferred alternative should include marine protected areas that incorporate areas important to birds, especially declining, threatened, or endangered species. I support environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching in marine protected areas so that the public can continue to understand and enjoy the resources we all hope to protect.

Please ensure the future of California's ocean and coasts by recommending Package 4 as your preferred alternative.

Thank you,

James Moyers

Golden Gate Audubon Member

Apr 17, 2008

California Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Task Force,

MY HUSBAND AND I ARE SCUBA DIVERS, HAVE SPENT TIME OFF CALIFORNIA'S COAST, LIVE NEAR THE COAST, AND, as strong proponents of preserving and improving the health of California's coastal ecosystems, we are writing to urge you to support Proposal 4.

This proposal promises the best future for the North Central Coast by identifying key areas for protection that will help repair vital ocean habitats, recover declining wildlife populations and restore California's coastal waters. AS THE CURRENT OVERFISHING ISSUES

INDICATE, WE NEED TO SET ASIDE AREAS AS REFUGES FOR SPECIES TO USE FOR REPOPULATING THE FISHABLE SPACES.

Thank you for considering my views on this important subject. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cam Wolff
9880 Brunswick Way
San Ramon, CA 94583-2906

Members of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I has come to my attention that you will soon be recommending an alternative to the Governor for ocean protection for our region of the coast.

As executive director of a nonprofit dedicated to sustainability for a California Critical Coastal Area watershed that relies on ocean resources to support our threatened anadromous steelhead and Chinook salmon fishery, I support the highest level of protection for California's coast. The network of protected marine areas described in Package 4 of the North Central

Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act is a package vetted by the science community that offers this protection while maintaining support from important stakeholders.

I strongly urge your support of Package 4.

Sincerely,

Richard Dale
Executive Director
Sonoma Ecology Center
20 East Spain St., Sonoma, CA 95476 USA
voice: 707 996-0712, ext. 106 fax: 996-2452
email: richard@sonomaecologycenter.org

The mission of the Sonoma Ecology Center is to work with our community to sustain ecological health in the Sonoma Valley.



United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Field Office
2550 N. State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
www.ca.blm.gov/ukiah
Office: (707) 468-4000 Fax: (707) 468-4027



IN REPLY REFER TO:

April 15, 2008

Mayor Susan Golding
Chair, MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force
C/O California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chairperson Golding:

I would like to enter my support of Proposal 4 of the Marine Life Protection Act initiative since it's the only proposal addressing appropriate management of marine resources off of the Stornetta Public Lands. The BLM acquired the Stornetta property through a donation from the Nature Conservancy in 2004. We believed that by accepting their donation, we would be protecting the south Mendocino Coast from development, providing public access and enjoyment to an incredible two mile stretch of Pacific coastline, protecting cultural resources, and preserving habitat for plants and animals. At the time, we didn't grasp the magnitude of the abalone issue north of Point Arena, California.

We learned immediately the involvement of these public lands with the abalone season is huge. On any given low tide weekend and minus tide weekdays, my law enforcement rangers have encountered over 800 people harvesting abalone in the Sea Lion Cove area. In 2005, it wasn't uncommon to have people show off their limit of three abalone all being nine inches and greater. As time has gone by, so has the large abalone. For seasons 2007 and into 2008, many of the abalones checked by the rangers just met the size limit, and it is not uncommon now for people to not reach their daily limit of three. It is of our opinion that if there is no protection, the abalone and other ocean floor species within the Sea Lion Cove area will be decimated by 2012.

Besides the outright over harvesting of abalone, there was the unanticipated impact caused by the large numbers of people attaching ropes to stationary posts and cascading off the cliff face to get to the abalone beds. These actions have expedited the erosion to the sea cliffs, destroyed plant species, and impacted migratory seabird nesting habitats. My rangers have issued many citations, and we have even posted signs in 9 different languages warning people not to repel from the sea cliffs. However, with upwards of 50 individuals going over at a time and the language translation

barriers, it is just impossible to enforce.

For BLM to follow through with our land management commitments we need measures in place which assist us in protecting those significant resources. I feel only proposal 4 of the Marine Life Protection Act initiative goes the distance in providing the appropriate protections to the marine floor resources, and sea cliff habitats. I want to thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment and help provide a direction for the future of the California Coast. Feel free to contact me at the above address or e-mail me at rburns@ca.blm.gov if you have any questions or would be interested in any background materials of the Stornetta Public Lands we may have.

Signed by:
Rich Burns
Field Manager, BLM Ukiah Field Office

Governor Schwarzenegger

Sor Jose Rames x. Le pido por favor
que mantenga mas areas protegidas
para el bienestar de la sociedad
x de la humanidad por el bien
de todos y de las nuevas
generaciones.

Jose Rames

470 Acacia St apt 13
Vacaville Ca.

—
Sep. 9, 2007

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

We thank you for your leadership for the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in the Central Coast of California. Please continue to drive the process to protect California's coast & ocean. I urge you to advise the Fish & Game Commission to create a network of Marine protected areas that provides the strongest protection to safeguard Southern California's bays, fish, and wildlife. We must all do our part to keep the ocean in excellent condition for our children to enjoy years to come.

Sincerely,

Laurie Pey

1145 Green St

Salinas, CA

(831) 22-6008

Laurie Pey

Date 4-9-07

Governor Schwarzenegger

I care for The Future of our Oceans. Please advise
The Fish and Game Commission To establish a Science-
based network of Marine protected areas That provides
the strongest protection for the marine ecosystems
That we depend upon. A healthy ocean is the best
Legacy We can leave For our children.

Name: Manuel Morillo D.

464 Beth Dr. San Jose CA 95111

Dear Governor,

We appreciate the cleaners
of our oceans. We like our
fresh fish.

Sincerely,

Man after

1300 Kara Ln.

Modesto, CA 95355

807 204-2432

7-10-07

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

Our Oceans are in danger. If current over fishing trends continue there will be nothing to fish in less than 3 decades. Please urge Fish & Game Commission to establish a strong network of marine protected areas in CA. Let's follow in the footsteps of those who established our State Park System.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Valdovinos
1539 Malinda St
Marina CA, 95336
(209) 482-2545
rva@elconcierto.org

My name is Kerry Sorenson. I am a volunteer for the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, the Marine Mammal Center, the Sonoma Coast State Park, and the California Academy of Sciences. As a volunteer for the Sanctuary I monitor Duxbury Reef, Bolinas and Agate Beaches. During this tenure we at the Sanctuary carried on a 3 yr. study on fish mortality. What we found was the fact that 90% of the fish recorded were killed by humans. As we monitor Bolinas we find an extreme amount of under sized one clawed Dungeness crabs from "sport" fishermen every opening day of crab season. Except for this one when the Cosco Busan oil spill happened. As a volunteer at the M.M.C. we commonly treat seals and sea lions that, except for some minor ailments, have nothing wrong with them other than the fact that they are starving to death. As a volunteer for the Academy of Sciences I do marine mammal necropsies. What we have found is the fact that fishermen are shooting seals and sea lions. As a volunteer for the State Park we commonly find large amounts of kelp, which is both food and habitat entangled in shot line from our crab industry. In all of my activities I constantly find birds of all kind entangled in fishing gear. This includes endangered species.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to adopt package #4 being put forward by the Blue Ribbon Task Force this week to ensure the long term stability of our fishing fleets, and the populations of fish, marine mammals, and sea birds along our coast.

Kerry Sorenson 10017 Cherry Ridge Rd.
Petaluma, CA 94952-8764

9 April 2008

MLPA Initiative
c/o California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Ste. 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Marine Protected Areas on North-Central Coast of California

Dear Resources Agency,

Thank you for your support of the Marine Line Protection Act. California's coastal waters are an important part of what makes our state such a great place to live and visit. I urge you and the Fish and Game Commission to adopt a strong network of marine reserves along the North-Central Coast that includes iconic places like Saunders and Duxbury Reef. The marine environment is under tremendous pressure so a network of marine reserves would help protect it.

Please respond with you opinion.

Sincerely,



Truman L. Burns

856 Sibert Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549

RECEIVED BY
Office of the Secretary

APR 10 2008

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

my name is alyssa, i live in monterey bay county,, i hope you can give us package 4. i feel we deserve it. our ocean is right in our back yard and need to keep it beautiful

Apr 17, 2008

California Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Task Force,

Protection of our coasts are crucial. We need to preserve the beauty and wildlife to keep enjoying it. I love visiting the coast often and I am a photographer working on a project on trash I find at every beach I go. It is every where and uncalled for. It can kill the animals and pollute the area we like to sit and enjoy the sunset. The coast needs protection from distruction.

Sincerely,

Miss Anne Truitt
3057 Richmond Blvd
Oakland, CA 94611-5816

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

As a Golden Gate Audubon member, I'm interested in efforts to conserve marine and coastal natural areas. This includes important bird areas along the coast.

Golden Gate Audubon recommends and supports Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act, and therefore I support it as well. We need to include areas important to birds, and allow environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching, so everyone can see the value of what we seek to protect and nurture.

Please choose Package 4.

Sincerely,

Bena Currin

Golden Gate Audubon Member

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

As a long-time birdwatcher, admirer of wildlife in general, and Golden Gate Audubon member, I am very concerned about the increasing pressures on our coastal waters and strongly interested in creating some protection for them while there's still time. I support the protections proposed in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act, and I hope you will decide to implement that initiative. But whatever form the plan finally takes, it should include strong protections for birds and other wildlife, especially declining and endangered species. In my opinion, there is no more time to dawdle on any of this; every day of delay dooms more individuals and even species. On the other

hand, if strong protections are implemented, future generations will bless those who were foresighted enough in our time to save what could be saved. Please don't fail in your duty to us and to them.

Thank you for your work on this issue.

Sincerely,

Charles Hibbard

Hi,

Please support package 4 which provides the strongest protection and conservation for MPA's. Thanks, Chris

Dear Task Force,

Last week our family had the pleasure of enjoying the wonders of the Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Carmel coastline. We were in awe of the natural beauty, and proud to live in a state that values these irreplaceable natural resources.

I understand that this month, a major decision will be made about new protections for the California coast, and that California is in the process of creating Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) from Half Moon Bay to Point Arena.

I also understand that there are different proposals on the table, some with much better protection than others.

Package 4 appears to be the strongest plan for protecting California's coast. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

We hope that on April 22-23, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force will decide to recommend to the State's Fish & Game Commission Package 4.

Thank you,

Dianna D. and David Overmyer

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force Members,

I am writing to register my overall support for marine life protection initiatives and my specific support for the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act.

I strongly urge you to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative.

Package 4 seems most comprehensive and beneficial to the overall area. I am also impressed that it includes inclusion of areas important to birds, especially declining, threatened, or endangered species. In these times of threatening rapid environmental change, I think it is crucial that we do all we can to help maintain and strengthen our local ecosystems for the broadest diversity of creatures. And at the same time, I support measured environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching in marine protected areas so that the public education around these issues can continue and be developed in our future leaders.

While I personally see the value in maintaining such areas for their ecological value alone, others rightfully assert the fact that our doing this is not only valuable in the big picture of the environment, but also economically. California's coast is known worldwide for its riches and so the better we take care of these resources, the better for the state in the long run. My involvement in the Audubon society has caused me to learn that bird watching, as one example, is part of an \$85 billion industry in the US and contributes substantially to the economy of California. Add in all the other nature-related hobbies and interests tucked into these lovely ecological zones and numbers like that, contributing to our economic vitality in the region, grow exponentially. So not only is a plan that offers broad coverage good environmental sense, but good economic sense in the long run as well.

As such, again, I support Package 4 as it seems to be the best plan including broad coverage including ecosystem management principles.

Thank you for your consideration.
Dr. Nancy A. Piotrowski
Former estuarine biology field worker
Environmental enthusiast and advocate

ear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force:

I regularly enjoy birding along the California coast, and support the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I ask the Blue Ribbon Task Force to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative. Any final package selected as the preferred alternative should include marine protected areas that incorporate areas important to birds, especially declining, threatened, or endangered species. Likewise, I support environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching in marine protected areas so that the public can continue to understand and enjoy the resources we all hope to protect.

Thank you for your work on this extremely important issue.

Sincerely,

Elena Saxonhouse
Golden Gate Audubon Society Member

I am a member of the Golden Gate Audubon Society and am writing in support of the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I am still seeing the terrible environmental effects of the Cosco Busan spill including dead oily birds along our shorelines nearly every time

I go out birding. We must do everything possible to protect our remaining marine environments or they will soon be irretrievably lost. I ask the BlueRibbon Task Force to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative. Any final package selected as the preferred alternative should include marine protected areas that incorporate areas important to birds, especially declining, threatened, or endangered species. Likewise, I support environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching in marine protected areas so that the public can continue to understand and enjoy the resources we all hope to protect.

Ellen Sasaki
Richmond CA

Dear Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I'm writing in support of Package Four for the North Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. This package is supported by scientists, fisherman, and all who want the highest level of protection for our coast.

Please choose Package Four.

Sincerely,

Katherine Jones MD, concerned citizen and board member of the Arntz Family Foundation

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

Please ensure the future of California 's ocean and coasts by recommending Package 4 as your preferred alternative for the Marine Preservation Act. We must do everything we can to preserve diversity of marine wildlife. Please prevent our seas and coasts from dying. Thank You.

Kristin Ohlson
Oakland, CA

Golden Gate Audubon Member

Dear Chair Golding and Members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

As President of the Board of the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, I would like to state that we unequivocally support Proposal 4.

The Friends have a membership of over 500 and a contingent of 65 naturalist docents who lead tours of the Reserve. Last year we lead 90 tours that included 9000 students from grades 3-university level. The vision of our group, in collaboration with San Mateo County Department of Parks and others, will preserve the thriving ecosystem at

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve and inspire appreciation and respect among all who visit. Our mission is to inspire the preservation of our unique intertidal environment through education and the support of research. We feel Proposal 4 most strongly supports these goals.

Fitzgerald Reserve has long since been recognized as one of the most biodiverse regions on the west coast. Work at the reserve has documented literally hundreds of common invertebrates, fishes and marine algae and scores of other, more rare species. This species richness constitutes the essence of the Reserve's uniqueness and value, and cannot be overstated. Equivalent habitat, both in extent and biotic diversity, does not exist elsewhere on the San Mateo County coast. Proposal 4 extends the protection of Fitzgerald Reserve into deeper waters to take full advantage of this scientifically recognized biodiverse area. The habitat complexity that occurs at Moss Beach extends miles into the ocean. Some of the most diverse habitat in the NCC region is here. This includes kelp beds, sea grass beds, rocky shale ridges, pinnacles and shallow and deep sandy bottoms all within a small geographical area. We want to extend out 3 nautical miles to take full advantage of the greater habitat complexity and biodiversity that occurs offshore to include the entire shale reef that exists from Reef Point to Pillar Point.

All the proposals put forward recognize the value of the Reserve and the necessity and wisdom of including it as part of the MPA network. They differ in the location of boundaries and designation of the levels of protection. The unique rocky intertidal and subtidal habitat that is identified extends from the southern end of Montara Beach south to Pillar Point. To arbitrarily divide the habitat makes no sense ecologically or from a management standpoint.

Proposal 4 leaves Pillar Point open for fishing so that it provides an opportunity for researchers to study the effects of such phenomenon as adult "spillover" and increased larval dispersal from the SMR into fished areas. According to scientists and the models they have constructed, the fishing yield should be as great or greater than before there was a SMR. With an SMR positioned directly next to a fished area, researchers have an easy access from the harbor and around to Pillar Point to test this theory.

We realize that different stakeholder groups have an intense interest in how this area is partitioned. That they can rally large numbers of supporters does not change the basic fact that the MPA process was designed to preserve and conserve unique marine ecosystems along the California coast for all Californians, not for a vocal minority. In the final analysis we are setting aside Marine Protected Areas for future generations, as the oceans belong to them and all Californians.

Thank you and all the members of the stakeholders group, SAT and the Blue Ribbon Task force for your effort to find the best possible solution for the health of our ocean.

Sincerely,

Mary DeLong

President

Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

Thank you for your work to create Marine Protected Areas in Northern California.

Marine Protected Areas have been found worldwide to preserve species diversity and to improve fishery sustainability. I am sure you have read the inspiring National

Geographic story on this subject, from 2007, which mentions that "Spillover and larval export—the drifting of millions of eggs and larvae beyond the reserve—have

become central concepts of marine conservation. Reserves where fishing is banned are now seen as potential seed farms and fish hatcheries, replenishing

the surrounding seas. Research at Goat Island [in New Zealand] has provided some of the strongest evidence of this replenishment effect—research made

possible by the fact that the reserve has been closed to fishing for 30 years."

The Marine Life Protection Act defines the purpose of MPAs: they "protect habitat and ecosystems, conserve biological diversity, provide a sanctuary for fish and

other sea life, enhance recreational and educational opportunities, provide a reference point against which scientists can measure changes elsewhere in the

marine environment, and may help rebuild depleted fisheries." To achieve these goals, the MPAs must protect the best habitat. That is what Proposal 4 would

do.

As a Golden Gate Audubon member, I am not just interested in marine life per se, but

also in the seabirds and shorebirds that rely on a healthy ocean ecosystem. By protecting areas that provide food for birds, MPAs have impacts far, far beyond their local areas.

Please recommend Proposal 4 to protect our oceans and our birds.

Thank you,

Phil Price

Golden Gate Audubon member

MLPA BlueRibbon Task Force:

Option 4 most effectively protects the marine life of the area to be protected. Please select Option 4. Thank you.

Philip Persons

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I am a student of conservation biology and volunteer with the Golden Gate Audubon. I strongly believe that protecting the habitat of birds, fish, and other marine and coastal creatures is an important step in effectively managing the coastal areas at an ecosystem level.

I support Proposal 4 because it focuses on habitat quality and conservation on the ecosystem level while still allowing environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching. This allows the public to become more knowledgeable about wildlife and hopefully also become more connected to it. I and hundreds of people like me enjoy looking for birds along the coast as a fun, relaxing way to spend a weekend. Fully protected marine sanctuaries can provide benefits for many different types of birds as well as helping to attract more to the area.

No ecosystem can truly function without input from all of its many, complex factors, both biotic and abiotic. It is for this reason that I urge you to select Proposal 4 and fully protect our coastal and marine areas.

Thank you,

T. Wade
Golden Gate Audubon Member

I support proposal 4 because I think the coast and our ocean are precious resources. It is our job to protect and preserve them for future generations.

Crystal Borrego
303-332-8057

Hello there,

My name is Emily Serdahl. I am a freshmen in highschool in NorCal. In the east bay. I am worried that the decisions you make will hurt and damage our beloved oceans and I strongly urge you to choose package 4. in my opinion, the safest and most cleanly for our oceans. Please help protect our only NorCal shores.

Thank-you
Emily

**Take Action to Protect Ocean Wildlife and Habitat NOW,
PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

This month, a major decision will be made about new protections for the California coast.

As you may know, California is in the process of creating Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) along the [North Central Coast](#), from Half Moon Bay to Point Arena.

These underwater state parks and reserves have the power to restore damaged habitats and let threatened species thrive. **But the protections will only work if they are strong enough.**

On April 22-23, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force will meet to decide which network of protected areas to recommend to the State's Fish & Game Commission.

There are different proposals on the table, some with much better protection than others. PLEASE GIVE ALL YOUR SUPPORT FOR **package 4, the strongest plan** for protecting California's coast. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

This is incredibly important to myself, my family and friends, our community and beyond. PLEASE, PLEASE don't let us down!!

Thank you! Gayle Gordon

My understanding is that Package 4 is the best to protect our coast. I would like to give my support for that package.
Nancy Negley

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of La Jolla Shores for the past 8 years, I have witnessed first hand the effect of our Marine Reserve on locals and visitors alike. There are few spots in Southern California that offer the chance for people to interact with wildlife the way they can here. On any given day, it is common for people to see sea lions sun bathing on the rocks, dolphin feeding of the shore, sand sharks cruising the shallows, fish jumping, pelican and cormerants diving, and even the occasional sea turtle. During my 3 years working as a kayak tour guide, I was struck time and time again by how much of an impact all this had on visitors. I have no doubt that every tourist I took out on the water left here with a greater appreciation for the environment and the need for conservation than they arrived with. In addition, eco tour businesses and other retailers have prospered thanks to the increased tourist traffic from the reserve, and the area has served as a valuable controlled environment for scientific research.

I strongly urge you to go forward with Proposal 4, the most protective plan, so that other parts of the State can reap the benefits of a protected area and help us send a message of conservation back across the country with every visitor. Anything less should be considered a failure of the MLPA objectives.

Regards,

Nate Cooper
8263 Camino del Oro #276
La Jolla CA 92037

Dear Chair Golding and members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

I want to convey my strongest support for proposal 4. This Proposal provides the complete protection the North Central Coast while still allowing access to areas traditionally used for fishing. Proposal 4 also extends its protection beyond the coast, to protect the biodiversity of this scientifically significant region in deeper water. This area is a fragile ecosystem and it should be protected for future generations.

The experts and scientists have weighed in, giving Proposal 4 their support. Proposal 4 protects the reefs and intertidal zones along the Sonoma coast and Fitzgerald Marine Life Refuge - an area which is home to one of the most biodiverse collections of marine life on the West Coast. This area is not only a treasure to families who are able to explore, experience and learn about this environment but also to the scientists who conduct their invaluable research here.

Proposal 4 provides the best protection to preserve this marine refuge and ensure that this critical part of our ecosystem remains and thrives.

Regards,
T. Van Nunnery
San Francisco

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are an investment in the future health of our coastal waters. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves harbor more and bigger fish and support a greater diversity of life than other areas. Healthy oceans support our coastal communities and our economy.

Please give California the strongest possible legacy of ocean protection supporting the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I ask you to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative.

Sincerely,
Amy Skopik
San Jose, CA 95124

To Whom It May Concern;

I just wanted to voice my opinion about the marine life off the California Coast. I believe it is very important to create MPAs along the North Central Coast. I believe there are many species that are, or will be, threatened if not protected. I am supporting the package 4 plan for protecting the coast.

Thank-you for your time,

Sincerely,

C.B.

Apr 15, 2008

California Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Task Force,

The health of California's coastal ecosystems is very important to me and to California's economy. Proposal 4 promotes the best future for the North Central Coast by identifying key areas for protection that will help repair vital ocean habitats, recover declining wildlife populations and restore California's coastal waters. A small investment now by halting exploitation of critical areas will pay off both economically and esthetically.

Thank you for considering my views on this important subject. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randall Tyers
63 Oakvale Ave
Berkeley, CA 94705-2403

Proposal 4 touts support by scientists and the best protection. The facts are that Proposal 4 falls 1 level below proposal 2-XA. The SAT showed that proposal 2-XA had a higher level of protection.

Many of the public are unaware of this process. They are easily deceived by untrue statements. I have looked at the maps and watched some of the meetings. I support proposal 2-XA based on the facts not on lies from protectionist groups that didn't present the best proposal.

Sincerely, Gary York
Marin Ca

Dear Mayor Golding and members of the BRTF

I'd like to submit the attached studies to the MLPA Initiative for the record. They strongly support protection of invertebrates and algae at Sea Lion Cove south of the lighthouse at Point Arena, as proposed in Package 4. A study conducted before this area was opened for public access in 2004 found that the invertebrate and algal communities were unusually undisturbed, that the area serves as an abalone nursery, and that the entire population occurs at diving depths less than 8.5 m. Because there is no refuge at depth for abalone populations inside Sea Lion Island, this population was deemed highly vulnerable to human impacts.

The stretch of coast south of Point Arena was relatively lightly used by people before public acquisition of the Stornetta Lands. Dr. Laura Rogers-Bennett documented the status of the abalone populations there before the area was opened for public access. Her study shows that abalone were 7 to 12 times more dense than those at nearby Moat Creek, which is open to access; had more than twice as many abalone bigger than legal size relative to the low use area of Moat Ck (there were no abalone of legal size in the Moat high-use area); had greater size distribution (from young of the year to bigger than legal size, compared to no YOY at Moat); and had red abalone and Giant Pacific chiton in the intertidal (Moat had neither).

Densities were among the highest ever recorded by CDFG subtidal abalone surveys. The Coastal Biodiversity Group at UCSC found that "this site is rare among the more than 100 intertidal sites sampled along the west coast due to minimal disturbance of the algal and invertebrate communities (H. Livingston and P. Raimondi, pers. comm.). Intertidal trampling studies conducted elsewhere suggest that this algal and invertebrate community is unique and could not withstand open access.

A follow-up study conducted by Rogers-Bennett in the 2007-2008 season found a dramatic decline of 79% decrease in red abalone in all size classes from before the opening to winter 2007-2008. According to Rogers-Bennett, this is a dramatic decrease. It shows that this site is subject huge fishing effort and that legal and sublegal abalone are being fished.

Thank you for considering this information.

Karen Garrison
Natural Resources Defense Council
111 Sutter Street, 20th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104
Tel: 415.875.6100
Fax: 415.875.6161

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

As a life long resident of California, and someone deeply concerned about the health of oceans, I want to thank you for the work underway on the MLPA.

I appreciate that a variety of stakeholders are part of the process to study and ascertain the most feasible balance between marine uses and protection, preservation and sustainability.

I ask that you select Proposal 1-3 or 4 as your preferred alternative. My preference is Proposal 4 that does the best job of meeting the MLPA goals and scientific guidelines, including providing the highest level of protection along the coast. In addition it has the support from a wide range of interests. Proposal 1-3, developed by fishing and conservation stakeholders, also offers strong protection. I strongly support such collaboration as providing the best overall outcome.

It is essential that we act now to protect a portion of state waters for natural diversity and abundance. The ramifications for the future are enormous. Healthy oceans are integral to sustaining coastal communities and our economy, as well as to the broader, far reaching implications on environmental and climate protection.

Please give California the strongest possible legacy of ocean protection by recommending Proposal 1-3 or 4.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Kay McMahon
Inverness, California 94937

Dear Sir or Madam,

During this crucial time, while California is in the process of creating Marine Protected Areas along the North Central Coast, from Half Moon Bay to Point Arena, I would like to urge you to support the strongest package written. There are different proposals on the table, some with much better protection than others. These underwater state parks and reserves have the power to restore damaged habitats and let threatened species thrive, but the protections will only work if they are strong enough. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

On April 22-23, when the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force will meet to decide which network of protected areas to recommend to the State's Fish & Game Commission, please consider the importance of preserving these unique marine habitats and do all you can to protect our California coasts and the diversity of wildlife therein. Please vote for Package 4.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Laura Harrison-Leeds
Hidden Hills, California

Dear Chair Golding and members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

I am writing in support of proposal 4, which I believe will protect California's unique marine ecosystems.

Since making California my home, I have come to truly value our state's amazing biodiversity, and I believe that this proposal will safeguard the vibrant zone of life, where the sea meets the earth.

I urge you to protect the environment that fosters California's rich marine life, and to support proposal 4.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Lazar
Oakland, California

Michael Mery
Box 729, 64 Knob Hill Road
Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956
415/663-1623
mmery@horizoncable.com

April 15, 2008

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I urge you to select Proposal 4 as your preferred alternative. Proposal 4 is the most refined of the choices in meeting the MLPA goals and scientific guidelines, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests. Second choice would be Proposal 1-3 since it offers strong protection and was developed by fishing and conservation stakeholders. I support such collaboration and believe it can yield the good outcomes.

I support the goals of the MLPA to protect a portion of state waters for natural diversity and abundance. Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are an investment in the future health of our coastal waters that will benefit generations to come. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves harbor more and bigger fish and support a greater diversity of life than other areas. Healthy oceans support our coastal communities and our economy.

Proposal 1-3 and 4 do a good job of setting aside natural areas in sites that are important to me: Pt Reyes Headlands, Bodega Head, Double Point and Duxbury,

Fitzgerald, the Farallones, and the north Sonoma coast. I support both proposals since they designate a full State Marine Reserve for Drakes Estero when the oyster reservation of use expires. Please select Proposal 1-3 or 4.

Respectfully

Mayor Susan Golding, Chair, MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

Please be sure to incorporate the subject Sea Lion Cove of Point Arena into the adjacent protected MLPA zone. Currently two of the three proposals FAIL TO RECOMMEND PROTECTION at this unique and vulnerable spot. One proposal (Proposal 4) has a protected area encompassing the cove, though it now allows fishing for everything but invertebrates and plants.

Every effort should be made to integrate the best of each proposal into the final version.

Thank you,
Nicolas Epanchin

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are an investment in the future health of our coastal waters. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves harbor more and bigger fish and support a greater diversity of life than other areas. Healthy oceans support our coastal communities and our economy. Please give California the strongest possible legacy of ocean protection by recommending Package 4.

We're counting on you.
Robert Bauer
Oakland, CA 94610

Dear Mayor Golding and BRTF Members:

Marine Reserves and Protected Areas (MPA) have been shown to be valuable additions to marine resource management throughout the world. I do not know which of the current three proposals is enough to save our resources from permanent depletion, but more and larger MPAs will do it faster and make the ecosystems more resilient to changes outside the MPA. Therefore, I ask you to send Proposal 4 to the Fish and Game Commission as the preferred option. Proposal 4 is the best option for current and future environmental users. If all the Proposals are considered, it is clear that Proposal 4 is the best for all Californians because it offers the most effective medicine for our current marine ecosystem infirmity.

Sincerely,
Robert Maruyama
Pacific Grove, CA

p.s.love those abalone!

Hello,
I am writing as a concerned resident of the California central coast. I urge you to support Package 4 when you vote to protect our coastal environment, as package 4 is the most comprehensive and strongest plan. We love the California coast, and we want to protect it!
Sincerely,
Shannon Dewees
(Please do not post my name or comments on your website; thank you.)

Dear Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I am writing in full support of Proposal 4. Over the past 8 years, the nonprofit organization that I founded, Field Trip Foundation, has hosted thousands of students from local underserved schools at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. The field trips we sponsor focus on state content standards including animal adaptations and habitats. There is no better outdoor classroom than FMR for illustrating these and other basic ecological concepts. Students get hands-on experience. Unquestionably, a visit to FMR gives context to student's studies. Meaningfulness begins with firsthand experiences.

I am asking that the BRTF grant Fitzgerald Marine Reserve the highest level of protection possible. FMR is a unique place and we must preserve it for future generations. I am writing on behalf of every teacher and every student that has explored the wonder of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. It is a resource that we all cherish.

Best,
Tina Conway

Dear Chair Golding and Members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force

I am writing in support of proposal 4. I am concerned about habitat protection. Our coast and its incredible biodiversity should be given consideration far beyond the minor human concerns that could interfere with maintaining the populations and variety of life forms. Why must people always think their concerns outweigh what nature really needs?? Haven't we learned our lessons yet? This proposal has been made because those who have studied the situation know that it is extremely important. Please, please listen!!

Betty Sills

Hello,

I'm writing in support of proposal 4. This will offer the best protection for coastal properties.

Thank you,
Chris Powell
P.O. Box 1583
El Granada, CA 94018

Apr 14, 2008

California Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Task Force,

I love the rich, biodiverse nature of the California. That is why I am driving 300 miles on Friday to participate in the Arcata birding festival as a bird photographer.

As an avid proponent of preserving and improving the health of California's coastal ecosystems, I write urging you to support

Proposal 4, which promises the best future for the North Central Coast by identifying key areas for protection that will help repair vital ocean habitats, recover declining wildlife populations and restore California's coastal waters.
Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Dr. Larry H. Thompson
1069 Felicia Ct
Livermore, CA 94550-8134

Dear Chair Golding & members of Blue Ribbon Task Force:

Of all proposals, #4 seems to be the best!

It would protect the No. Central Coast, yet minimize economic impact by allowing small boat fishermen access to sections of the coast in which they traditionally fish. Special places like Fitzgerald Marine Park would be further protected with the extension into deeper waters.

We must protect such regions up and down our coast to make sure marine animals have refuges where they can reproduce and thrive.

**The choice of proposal 4 will preserve our ocean for future generations.
My family and I hope and pray that it will be chosen.**

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wright

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

Now that salmon fishing has been banned for this season and probably for all time given the complete disruption of habitat throughout the watersheds of California and Oregon, we should expect our California ocean fisheries to collapse as well at some point in the not too distant future. Please take action now. We must support the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I ask you to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are an investment in the future health of our coastal waters. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves harbor more and bigger fish and support a greater diversity of life than other areas. Healthy oceans support our coastal communities and our economy. Please give California the strongest possible legacy of ocean protection by recommending Package 4.

Sincerely,
Jamie Simon
Encinitas, CA 92024

Dear Decision Makers:

It is my understanding that California is in the process of creating Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) along the North Coast: Half Moon Bay to Point Arena.

I value our underwater state parks and reserves and consider them to have economic value for our tourist industry. I'd like them to be restored and let threatened species thrive. But the protections will only work if they are strong enough.

Please support package 4, the strongest plan for protecting California's coast. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

Please do not put my name on the MLPA website. (I'm shy!)

Thank you.

Katy Redmon

Petaluma, CA 94952

Hi, my name is Kyra Bergsund, and I am a seventh grader. I don't really know what to say in this email other than I am supporting the protections and I want to keep them as strong as possible. I definitely support package 4.

--
Kyra

To Whom It May Concern,

I was just writing this email to quickly let you know that I am strongly in favor of instituting the Package 4 Plan in the proposed North Central Coast MPA. I live near this area and visit the ocean frequently, and it is a beautiful and unique section of our state that should be protected for future generations.

Thank you for your time.

Lucas Harper

While there are pros and cons to every argument and the discussion around creating additional MPAs is of no exception, however I think in this day and age we need to err on the side of caution as to the effects we are having on the environment. Many leaders still question if global warming exists and if so what kind of effects it is having and yet we are experiencing record temperatures and expected to get worse. With time comes understanding and knowledge, but if we do not protect resources today that knowledge might come too late.

I would strongly recommend and request additional caution in using natural resources and instead err on the side of protecting our planet and frankly eco-systems that we depend on. Thus I would recommend that we adopt Package 4 to assure that until we have more data on the impact we might be causing and for now protect these resources.

Thank you for your consideration.
Matthew Stein
Sr. Enterprise Architecture Manager
Marketing/CMO
Mdstein@cisco.com

April 14, 2008
To: Blue Ribbon Task Force Members

This note is to recommend Proposal 4 to the Blue Ribbon Task Force.

I have spent more than twenty summers camping, fishing and enjoying the Gualala and Point Arena Areas. These have been wonderful times full of interesting nature observations set amongst the winds and waves of the Pacific Ocean. I was pleasantly surprised to find that there was planning for a series of Marine Reserves intended to preserve this area that I have enjoyed so much. When I was able to find reference to the Marine Life Protection Act process on the Internet, I found that planning was in an advanced state and that there are currently three similar, but far from identical, proposals before you. I found that these proposals are to be considered on April 22 and 23 by the Blue Ribbon Task Force, a body of five well qualified individuals with extensive experience in resource management and policy.

After carefully reviewing these three proposals, and considering my experiences on the Coast, I fully endorse Proposal 4 and believe that Proposal 4 is the plan that will best protect the natural resources of the North Central California Coast. Proposal 4 will provide a necessarily robust level of protection and preserve a valuable and irreplaceable ocean legacy that will serve all the citizens of California and the entire USA. Please recommend Proposal 4 to the California Fish and Game Commission for approval.

With best regards and gratitude,

Nancy Lee
Pacific Grove, CA

I support Package #4 as the best alternative for protecting the North Central Coast. Its proposed network of reserves and conservation areas is the strongest ocean protection plan. There are so many special places in the North Central Coast: Bolinas Lagoon, Duxbury Reef, Arenas Rock, Salt Point, Gerstle Cove, Fort Ross Cove, the Russian River Estuary, Bodega Head, Estero Americano, Estero de San Antonio, Estero Limantour, Saunders Reef, Fitzgerald reef to name a few. These and others named in Package #4 deserve the strongest protections to preserve in some cases, restore in others, their rich, complex habitats. I urge adoption of Package #4 as the preferred alternative.

Norma Jellison
P O BOX 1636
Bodega Bay CA 94923

Dear MLPA,

As a California resident, I am deeply concerned about our oceans both right off of our coast and abroad. We need to be stewards of our environment, including the oceans, and leave them

better off than we found them. Please support Package 4, the strongest option to protect and preserve our oceans for future generations.

Thanks,

Ryan Young

To: Chair Golding and members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

Please support proposal 4 for the Fitzgerald Marine Park. I am so amazed by the reserve, knowing that more than a beautiful and fascinating place to bring my family, it is a crucial rare habitat for such diverse marine life. I feel already how fragile it is and that the impact of so many humans using it must take its toll. I truly believe we owe it to future generations to protect this place and its creatures to the best of our ability. The natural world is in a state of crisis and we must work with it to sustain it, not allow as much fun or production as possible at this time.

Please support the more protective proposal 4 as endorsed by the board of the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve.

Very Sincerely,

Terri Compost

Naturalist and Educator

Dear Chair Golding and Members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

I attended a several hour meeting in Pacifica on February 6, 2008, in which all of the then existing MLPA proposals for the North Central Coast were discussed. Detailed maps setting forth the boundaries of protected areas in each proposal were handed out. After that meeting, I reviewed the handouts and came to the conclusion that Proposal #4 most closely met the scientific guidelines for MLPAs, provided the best protection of the most sensitive areas of biodiversity along the North Central Coast and had an acceptable level of economic impact on the fishing community. For these reasons I supported Proposal #4 then and continue to support it now.

As a volunteer naturalist at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, a member of the board of the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve and a member of the board of the San Mateo County Parks Foundation, I was particularly interested in how each of the proposals dealt with Fitzgerald Marine Reserve -- undoubtedly one of the most sensitive and cherished spots on our coast. All of the proposals presented at the Pacifica meeting provided the highest protection for FMR. Rightfully so!

In this regard I was surprised and distressed to learn that subsequent proposals have been made that would compromise giving all of FMR the highest level of protection available. Simply unbelievable.

I urge you to reject any proposal that compromises protection of all of FMR to the highest degree possible and to choose Proposal #4, which, on the merits is the best proposal.

Thank you for taking time to consider this letter.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Ciotti

From: Trish Hooper [<mailto:tulefog1@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2008 8:02 PM
To: MLPAComments
Subject:

There is strong support for Package 4 - an attempt to protect the shore lines along California's fragile coast. While we humans continue to overpopulate our state and destroy our lands, forests, streams and lakes, we now have an opportunity to try to save the parts of the oceans which are most likely to be influenced by our consuming greeds. Please consider Package 4 before our Pacific Ocean will be rightly named the dead sea.

Trish Hooper, Portola Valley 94028

I am writing in support of package 4 to create the most comprehensive plan to protect the California North Coast marine life and habitat. As a child growing up in Humboldt and now living in Monterey for a number of years I am shocked at the negative changes in 30 short years.

Please take the bold act to protect our unique and precious marine environment.

Respectfully,
Darcie Henning

To Whom it May Concern:

I am aware that the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force is going to soon decide what areas of underwater state parks to recommend to the State's Fish and Game Commission.

I would like to tell you that I support package 4.

Package 4 would make a wide range of people happy because it is the strongest protection of our precious ocean. Scientists say it is the best protection and I agree.

I know of many others who feel this way about package 4 and I once again urge you to support this package.

I request that my comments not be shown on the MPLA website.

Sincerely,
Erin Landers

Dear Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I'm an eighth grader at Chico Junior High School, and I believe strongly in preserving our wildlife. I especially think this act is important because it preserves the wildlife in our own general area, and shouldn't we protect it as much as possible. That's why I believe you should choose package four-our wildlife should be protected as much as possible, and it needs all the help it can get.

Julie Bulia

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I urge you to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative for protecting the North Central Coast Region under the Marine Life Protection Act. We need to provide a comprehensive network to support growth inside the reserves and its expansion into surrounding areas, for the benefit of Californian's such as myself, who live in Sonoma County, and for the rest of the world's oceans. This requires the high level of protection that is provided by Package 4.

We need to invest now in the future health of our coastal waters. Marine protected areas, especially those that are highly protected, provide a wide range of benefits that support the diversity and productivity of marine life. These in turn provide benefits to coastal communities and the California State economy.

So please support Package 4 for the benefit of Sonoma County, California and the world ocean.

Many thanks,

Kristina Gjerde
220 Indian Creek Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Dear Chair Golding and the Blue Ribbon Task Force members, I strongly support proposal 4. I am a tide pool docent, a member of the Friend of Fitzgerald, and a practicing veterinarian with a strong committment to biodiversity. Please do what is right, not what is expedient and gives short term benefit. Please support Proposal 4.

Thank you,
Lisa Eshman, DVM

Dear Task Force on Marine Protected Areas:

In considering the proposals for protecting California's marine areas, I strongly urge you to choose Package Four, the plan with the strongest protections for the north-central coast.

It is the plan preferred by scientists and is supported by a wide range of interests.

I am a US citizen currently living in Switzerland, where I greatly appreciate the close conjunction of natural with urban areas, worked out over centuries, in all the populated areas of Switzerland. As is proven here, if we treat our natural resources, terrestrial and marine, with the respect they deserve, they reward us with their bounty and beauty forever. Treat a marine environment with disrespect, by over-harvesting or polluting, and it will decay and provide neither.

A grew up in Palo Alto in the '60s and lived recently for a few years in San Francisco, and consider myself a California boy. I love the bay, the beaches, and the coastal zone, and I realized even in 1965 in junior high that the waters needed help. The "Save the Bay" movement of that time left its imprint on me. Fortyfive years later it's obvious they were right: Everyone agrees the bay is delicate, and it gets our help. Now it's the ocean coastal waters in trouble from overuse. They require real protection.

I lived in Auckland NZ for eight years, and snorkeled at the Poor Knights islands. The Poor Knights were the second marine total reserve in New Zealand and proved just as successful as the first, after the waters suffered from over-fishing: Sea life rebounded, the reserve became a divers' paradise, and fishing at the periphery is excellent from the "overflow". New Zealand led the way in marine sanctuaries. California has already led the USA in establishing early marine reserves. Reserves are desperately needed world-wide; now is a chance for California to really champion the concept, and be once again a world standard-bearer for conservation methods that work.

Please choose and implement Package Four. Thank you very much.

-- Peter

Peter Butterfield
Rue Bourg-de-Four 8
1170 Aubonne
Switzerland
peter@pub-link.com

Dear Task Force,

Please support Package 4, the strongest plan for protecting California's coast. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests. It is of utmost importance that we not only stop but reverse the abuse of our ecosystems and our oceans in particular. Please support this important measure.

Sincerely,

Ron Sierra

Registered Voter State of California

Dear Task Force,

Please support Package 4, the strongest plan for protecting California's coast. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests. It is of utmost importance that we not only stop but reverse the abuse of our ecosystems and our oceans in particular. Please support this important measure.

Sincerely,

Ron Sierra

Registered Voter State of California

Hello Sir or Madame,

I am writing to urge you to recommend to the State Fish and Game Commission that they adopt package four (4) as the standard for protecting our underwater ecosystems when you meet on April 22-23. As California's economy gets increasingly dicey, it is important that we protect to the highest degree possible what makes this state an economically and socially desirable place to live, and the underwater marine life is a big part of that equation. To adopt anything less than the highest protection possible is cowardly and will make a hypocrite of California, which is currently seen as a national leader in environmental protection. Please do not even consider anything less than package 4.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Young

Irvine, CA

From: Bonnie Franklin [<mailto:bkfranklin@pacbell.net>]

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 8:29 AM

To: MLPAComments

Subject: Marine Life Protection Act voting request

Dear Task Force Members,

Please continue the fight to protect our oceans!

I want the highest protection possible for our oceans, so I support the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I ask you to select Package 4 as your preferred choice. I'm aware that Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are an investment in the future health of our coastal waters. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves harbor more and bigger fish and support a greater diversity of life than other areas. Healthy oceans support our coastal communities and our economy. Please give California the strongest possible legacy of ocean protection by recommending Package 4.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Franklin

P.S. I prefer you not publish my letter on your website. Thank you.

I am writing you to encourage you to support Package 4.
I support the the people in the know who support Package 4, the scientists.
I support protecting the habitats of the ocean creatures.
I support protecting the quality of the ocean waters.
Please support Package 4!

Bonnie Whisler
1985 Military Ave.
Seaside, CA 93955

I recently moved to Florida from the Central Coast. I have been extremely disappointed in the lack of conservation efforts and the general lack of focus on protecting marine environments here even though they play such an important role in the culture. The major difference between the two areas is that developers have been able to control marine areas and the average citizen has a hard time finding access to the waterfront without paying through the nose. The consequence has been habitat destruction and the loss of important ecosystems including coral reefs and sea turtle nesting areas.

California has a great opportunity to continue as a the torch bearer in ocean protection and be an example for the rest of the country to follow. Package 4 is a great step in preserving California's resources for future generations of humans as well as our non-human neighbors.

Regards,

Brian Schum
Boca Raton, FL

Dear Chair Golding and Members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force

It is my understanding you are in the final steps of selecting how the MLPA are to be protected. Fitzgerald Marine Park in Moss Beach is a unique area and it would seem that Proposal 4 will provide the best protection for it. Now, more than ever we need to preserve any refuges for future generations.

Sincerely, Eileen Hagen

Dear Chair Golding and Blue Ribbon Task Force Members;

I am very much in favor of Proposal #4 to better protect the North Central Coast habitats. It also considers and protects the small boat fishermen by giving them access to the sections of the coast that they traditionally fish.

As a former teacher on the Peninsula, I and my colleagues took our classes each year to Fitzgerald Marine Reserve and studied one of the most biodiverse regions on the West Coast and probably in the world. I am excited about the Proposal #4 that extends the park into deeper waters.

It is up to our generation to ensure that this whole area of the North Central Coast will be protected for the Marine animals to reproduce and thrive and be there for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Janet W. Warren

Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF):

This note is in support of strong ocean conservation for the Sonoma Coast. I understand that you will soon consider proposals in this regard, but I urge you to choose "Package 4" which has the greatest support from knowledgeable scientists. I live in Santa Rosa and spend many days along the Sonoma coast. Protecting special places including Point Reyes, Fitzgerald Marine Park, and the Farallon Islands for future generations is a true ocean legacy. Please support "Package 4".

John MacLean
553 Catherine Ct.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Good morni ng,

Pl ease approve Package 4, for our sea l i fe, our oceans, and our worl d.

Thank you,

Lynne Ni col etti
Denver, Col orado

Dear Chairperson Golding and Members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force,

As a professional biologist who often visits the California coast and cares deeply about our nation's coastal marine resources and the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, I support Proposal 4 which I think will offer the best and most reasonable protection for this portion of California's North Central Coast. The

reserve and its proposed extension into deeper waters deserves this level of protection in large part because of the outstanding level of biological diversity found there. The human species has already taken so much of our natural environment and destroyed or modified it for our own gain. We must protect and preserve what little is left, both for the benefit of the myriad of species that depend on healthy natural ecosystems, but also because they are part of the life support system for all organisms. Please approve Proposal 4.

Thank you.

sincerely,

Mary J. Elpers
Reno, Nevada

Dear Chair Golding and Members of the Blue Ribbon task force:

I am a very concerned party of preserving and protecting the intertidal habitats with Fitzgerald Marine park in Moss Beach.

I have always been a believer of anything that spares and saves the environment, and certainly all living creatures.

From what I know of Proposal 4 it gets the highest ratings from the scientific community. It protects rocky reefs along the Sonoma coast and is one of the most biodiverse regions on the west coast; the Fitzgerald Marine park.

I believe it is GRAVELY important to preserve our oceans and to ensure that future generations will be taught to continue to preserve and enjoy their beauty. If we don't start doing things right, and in a manner of care and concern for our beautiful land and oceans, we will have to bear the burden of what we have done to hurt our environment.

It is crucial that you take heed and choose PROPOSAL 4, extending the protection of Fitzgerald Marine park into deeper waters. This to me is a no brainer. We as a people, need to embrace our oceans and keep them beautiful, safe and as UNDISTURBED as possible for all of us now and for future generations to come.

The choice is yours, I do hope you make the right one.

Respectfully,

Roberta Van Den Kieboom

From: Jim N/A [mailto:helicon01@pacbell.net]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 6:43 AM
To: MLPAComments

Cc: Mike Chrisman

Subject: Some Reasons I oppose Proposal 4

Dear BRTF Members,

One environmental Organization

Proposal 4 affords the best protection for the North Central Coast, while minimizing economic impact by allowing small boat fishermen access to those sections of the coast that they traditionally fish.

Proposal 4 gets the highest marks from the scientific community in size, spacing and habitat protection. It protects rocky reefs along the Sonoma coast and one of the most biodiverse regions on the west coast; the Fitzgerald Marine Park. Proposal 4 extends the protection of Fitzgerald Marine Park into deeper waters to take full advantage of this scientifically recognized biodiverse area.

We need a strong network of highly protected areas that ensure that marine animals have refuges where they can reproduce and thrive. By choosing Proposal 4 we will be doing our best to preserve our ocean for future generations.

From another Environmental organization:

We need your help to make sure decision-makers hear loud and clear that there is support for package 4, the strongest plan for protecting California's coast. Package 4 gets the highest marks from scientists, provides the highest level of protection to special places along the coast, and enjoys support from a wide range of interests.

Let me start by saying that Proposal 4 doesn't provide the best protection, Sat report only gave it a Moderate Level of Protection.

The paragraph about minimizing economic impact and allowing small boat fishermen to access traditional fishing areas is totally false.

A wide range of interests is the Environmental community, It doesn't include those that will be affected if proposal 4 is accepted. It doesn't take into account the loss of millions of dollars in revenues for both local and state government. It doesn't take into account both

the commercial and sportfishing communities which are already hurting from the king salmon closure. Governor Schwarzenegger had to declare a disaster and ask for federal assistance. 225 million is only a percentage of what would be lost.

Thank You,
Jim Volberding

Dear Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I am writing to urge you to choose the strongest possible protection for our marine areas in the decision regarding areas from Half Moon Bay to Point Arena later this month. I think we should do all we can to protect our beautiful marine areas that are both as yet untampered as

well as those in need of recovery. I urge you to choose package 4 because it has received the highest marks from scientists in terms of being an effective plan for the health of our marine environments.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Ari Warren
3941 Glen Haven Road
Soquel, CA 95073
(831)-475-8658

From: cwoods@uoguelph.ca [<mailto:cwoods@uoguelph.ca>]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 8:20 AM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: California's North Central Coast

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger and his Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I visited California for the Ecological Society of America conference in San Jose last August, 2007. It was my first time in California (outside of airports) and, I must say, that the coasts of California are something to be treasured and protected. I travelled along Hwy 1 to see the Monterey Bay aquarium where I learnt about the concerns and environmental issues that the coast is currently dealing with and have come to conclusion that they need to be protected with the most rigorous plan that supports the largest amount of area to be protected. I have recently been informed by the Monterey Bay Aquarium that Package 4 represents what I feel is the best plan and I fully support the implementation of this plan.

Our planet thrives on it's aquatic ecosystems, not only for food and enjoyment, but for phytoplankton photosynthesis, which provides half of the planets oxygen. By not recognizing the importance of our oceans and protecting them from further degradation, we not only deprive ourselves of understanding this incredible system, of which we know very little, but we are also playing with our own fate, as we have no idea of the impact coastal degradation will have on our environment. Again, we find ourselves in a society where the power of many is held in the hands of the few. You, as a government, have the responsibility to listen to the advice of scientists, and the concerns of your citizens and choose the plan that will allow for the largest protection possible of your coasts. I, as a Canadian, have credited California for their vision in environmental issues since Arnold became governor and I would hate for you to lose that reputation.

kind regards from a budding and concerned scientist, Carrie Woods

--

Carrie L. Woods
MSc. Candidate
OAC GSC Chair
Environmental Biology Student Rep
Department of Environmental Biology
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario CANADA N1G 2W1
Phone: 519.824.4120 x52623

Fax: 519.837.0442
Cell: 519.835.6339

When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world. John Muir

From: Hampton Bynum [mailto:emarhamp@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 9:07 AM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: Package 4

Dear Madames and Sirs,

Please give your support to package 4. I am a fifth generation Californian and it is imperative to respect and protect one of the greatest treasures of Mother Nature.

Thanks,

--

Hampton Bynum
River Bend Ranch Winery
707-433-3204

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force
I love our beautiful North Central Coast. It's a part of so many great family memories. The life of this area of "our" Pacific Ocean MUST be protected, so that my grandchildren, and yours, will be able to enjoy, learn from and share the blessings of this remarkable area. Let's be generous and wise, and protect our coast.

For these reasons, I support the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act.

With love for our ocean and coastline,
Janet Weil
Concord, CA 94518

Dear Chair Golding and members of the Blue Ribbon Task Force:

I am a docent at the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve in Moss Beach. My mother has been a docent at the reserve since the early 1980's. We both have seen first hand the dreadful impact on the Reserve habitat from years of over-use and over-fishing of near-shore marine life. I am writing in support of proposal 4. Like everyone else I care deeply about our oceans and want to ensure that they are protected. The best way to do that is by giving the special places in our region the complete protection they deserve. My mother and I strongly support Proposal 4.

Proposal 4 provides the best protection for the North Central Coast, while minimizing economic impact by allowing small boat fishermen access to those sections of the coast that they traditionally fish.

Proposal 4 gets the highest marks from the scientific community in size, spacing and habitat protection. It protects rocky reefs along the Sonoma coast and one of the most biodiverse regions on the west coast; the Fitzgerald Marine Park. Proposal 4 extends the protection of Fitzgerald Marine Park into deeper waters to take full advantage of this scientifically recognized biodiverse area. This is of vital importance to the citizens of San Mateo County and to the public and private schools in the greater Bay Area who bring their students by the hundreds, to the Reserve each year.

We need a strong network of highly protected areas that ensure that marine animals have refuges where they can reproduce and thrive. By choosing Proposal 4 we will be doing our best to preserve our ocean for future generations.

Sincerely,

Marsha Cohen
Leah Cohen
Docent Volunteers
Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

From: Mary Wicksten [<mailto:wicksten@mail.bio.tamu.edu>]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 6:58 AM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: Fitzgerald Marine Life Reserve

Ladies and Gentlemen: I am a member of the scientific advisory board for the James V. Fitzgerald Marine Life Reserve. In reviewing the various maps and plans for marine life protection in northern California, I believe that proposal 4 offers the best protection for the Reserve.

Proposal 2XA will allow commercial fishing directly off the southern part of the Reserve--an area now occupied by a large herd of harbor seals and containing an extensive shale reef ecosystem. I have been involved in on-site studies of crabs and subtidal marine life in the Reserve. Limited diving observations in the area suggest that the channels and shallow areas of the Reserve are used as a nursery area for surfperches, greenling and other fishes that could be badly impacted by heavy fishing of prey species close by. Commercial fishing would disrupt migration to and from the shallow areas by juvenile and adult crabs and fishes, and give a very bad example to would-be coastal fishermen. There are plenty of other areas in which to fish. Yours truly, Mary K.

Wicksten, Professor of Biology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-3258

Note: the opinions given here are my own and are not to be taken as the official opinion of Texas A&M University.

protect our coastal ecology! support package 4

Russell Bellamy

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to express my support for Package 4, and would like you to do the same. It is important to preserve our natural resources, including the ocean and its inhabitants. **Being "green" is neither new nor hip; it is simply the right path to take in order to live on and share the earth in a healthy way. Let's look beyond a 10 or 20 year span.** My 12 year old is considering what she might like to pursue as a career. She is interested in marine biology, and I want her to have lots of clean, healthy sea flora and fauna to explore. As a 4th generation native Southern Californian, the beach is a part of my family's heritage. We do our part to protect and preserve it, please do your part. Vote for Package 4. Thank you.

Most sincerely,
TJ Treloar

From: TOM MCCARTER [mailto:tgmc51@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 5:50 AM

To: MLPAComments

Subject: Marine Protection Zone

I support creating a Marine Protection Zone from Point Arenas to the Monterey Bay, and I would like to have Program 4 level protection. It's almost too late for the ocean and the sooner we start to protect it, the better. It's not just about the health of the ocean. Already, we aren't going to have any salmon for the next two years. This could mean the death of the fishing industry and all the related businesses. Creating a Program 4 Marine Protection Zone is a good economic move in the long run, as well. Let's give the ocean a breather.

Tom McCarter
4271 N. First Street # 72
San Jose, CA 95134
